Justice & Empowerment to Ministry of Human Resource Development and passage of an ordinance to ensure barrier free design and access features in all future construction.

The demands relating to legislative, financial and administrative aspects involving various Ministries/Departments of Government of India and the State Governments have been referred to them. The Government has approved the proposal to shift the Office of Chief Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities from NOIDA to Delhi. A reply to the representation has been sent to DRG.

Pilot projects for welfare of Disabled in Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka

1916. SHRI SUDARSHAN AKARAPU: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have proposed a pilot project in Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka for the welfare of the disabled in collaboration with the Rehabilitation Council for India;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the budget allocation made therefor; and

(c) the other steps taken to enable the society to treat the disabled on par with others?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI SATYABRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Government of India has enacted the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995 (PWD Act) that seeks to ensure equal opportunities for persons with disabilities and their full participation in nation-building. It provides for both preventive and promotional aspect of rehabilitation like education, employment and vocational training, job reservation, rehabilitation and manpower development, creation of barrier-free environment, rehabilitation for persons with disability, etc. the Act also provides for grievance redressal mechanism in relation to deprivation

of rights of persons with disabilities and non-implementation of related laws rules, regulations, executive orders, guidelines, etc. the provisions of the Act have to be implemented through a multi-sectoral approach involving different Ministries, State Governments and local bodies and progress in this regard is reviewed from time to time.

The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment is running manpower development programames to improve availability of rehabilitation professionals and providing a wide range of rehabilitation services through the 6 National and Apex Institutes in the different areas of disability, 5 Composite Regional Centres, 4 Regional Rehabilitation Centres, 11 District Rehabilitation Centres and 82 District Disability Rehabilitation Centres. Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation of India (ALIMACO) is manufacturing and distributing various types of aids and appliances for persons with disabilites. The Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI) is responsible for regulating training policies and programmes for various categories of professionals in the area of disability and maintains a Central Rehablitation Register for them. The National Trust for Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities has come into being. Delivery of various rehabilitation services to persons with disablities is also facilitated by voluntary organizations by affording financial assistance and technical and administrative support. To promote economic empowerment, the National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation extends soft loans for self-employment ventures.

NGOs Functioning In Arunachal Pradesh

1917. SHRI NABAM REBIA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AN EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state the details of NGOs functioning at present in the State of Arunachal Pradesh alongwith the details of financial assistance being provided by Government for the various schemes during the last three years, till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI SATYABRATA MOOKHERJEE) Details of NGOs functioning at present in the state of Arunachal